

IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1.-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) An image processing device comprising:

a scanner for reading an image of a document and outputting an image signal;

a control unit including a control circuit adapted for controlling said device and performing image processing necessary for copying on the image signal output from said scanner to provide a first processed image signal;

I, a first bidirectional general-purpose interface for transmitting the image signal output by said scanner under control of said control unit to an external computer, which performs image processing necessary for copying on the transmitted image signal to provide a second processed image signal, and for receiving the second processed image signal from the external computer; and

a second bidirectional general-purpose interface of a same standard as said first bidirectional general-purpose interface adapted for outputting the first processed image signal and the second processed image signal to a printer,

wherein said device has a plurality of modes including a read mode, a print mode, a first copying mode performed in response to ~~an execution~~ a copying designation by

a user, and a second copying mode in which the image signal output from said scanner is outputted to ~~said the~~ printer without being processed ~~by~~ the external computer,

in the first copying mode, the image signal from said scanner being transmitted in order of: said control unit, said first bidirectional general-purpose interface, the external computer, said first bidirectional general-purpose interface, said control unit, and said second bidirectional general-purpose interface so as to perform copying based on the second processed image signal, and

in the second copying mode, the image signal from said scanner being transmitted in order of: said control unit and said second bidirectional general-purpose interface so as to perform copying based on the first processed image signal.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Amended) The device according to claim 24, wherein the external computer includes a modem capable of processing the image signal received through said first bidirectional general-purpose interface and transmitting the image signal to a public telephone line.

27. (Currently Amended) An image processing method for an image processing device capable of operating in a plurality of modes including a read mode, a print mode, a first copying mode, and a second copying mode, said method comprising the steps of:

a) in said first copying mode,

reading an image of a document and outputting an image signal
by a scanner;

~~performing image processing necessary for copying on the
output image signal by using a control unit for controlling the image processing device to provide
a first processed image signal;~~

~~transmitting the image signal output by the scanner under
control of the control unit to an external computer via a first bidirectional general-purpose
interface to be processed, by image processing necessary for copying, into a second processed
image signal in said first copying mode, wherein the external computer performs image
processing necessary for copying on the transmitted image signal to provide a second processed
image signal;~~

~~receiving the second processed image signal from the external
computer via the first bidirectional general-purpose interface in said first copying mode; and~~

~~outputting the second processed image signal to a printer via a
second bidirectional general-purpose interface of a same standard as said the first bidirectional
general-purpose interface, and in said first copying mode, or~~

b) in said second copying mode,

reading an image of a document and outputting an image signal by the
scanner;

performing image processing necessary for copying on the image signal
output by the scanner in a control unit for controlling the image processing device to provide a
first processed image signal; and

outputting the first processed image signal to the printer via said the
second bidirectional general-purpose interface ~~in said second copying mode,~~

wherein each of said first and second copying modes is performed in response
to a designation of corresponding one of said first and second copying modes.

~~wherein in said first copying mode, said reading step, said image processing~~
~~step, said transmission step, said receiving step, and said outputting step are consecutively~~
~~performed in response to an execution designation by a user, and in said second copying mode,~~
~~said reading step, said image processing step, said outputting step are consecutively performed.~~

28. (Cancelled)

29. (Previously Amended) The method according to claim 27, wherein the
transmitted image signal is processed by the external computer and transmitted to a public
telephone line.

30.-57. (Cancelled)

58. (Previously Added) The image processing device according to claim 24,
wherein said scanner generates a color image signal.

59. (Previously Amended) The image processing device according to claim 24,
wherein said control unit has a density adjusting function.

60. and 61. (Cancelled)

62. (New) An image processing method by using an image processing device capable of operating in a plurality of modes including a read mode, a print mode, a first copying mode in response to a copying designation by a user, a second copying mode, said method comprising the steps of:

reading an image of a document and outputting an image signal by a scanner;

in the first copying mode, transmitting the image signal output by a scanner to an external computer via a first bidirectional general-purpose interface, performing image processing necessary for copying on the transmitted image signal in the external computer to provide a first processed image signal, transmitting the first processed image signal to the image processing device via the first bidirectional general-purpose interface, and outputting the first processed image signal to a printer via a second bidirectional general-purpose interface of a same standard as the first bidirectional general-purpose interface; and

in the second copying mode, performing image processing necessary for copying on the image signal output by the scanner in a control unit for controlling the image processing device to provide a second processed image signal and outputting the second processed image signal to the printer via the second bidirectional general-purpose interface.